



Highlights of Mayor Abramson's Proposed FY 2006-07 Budget

No tax increases or service cuts

Fulfills promise of more efficient, effective government

- Maintains smaller workforce since merger (738 fewer jobs) despite additions in police, EMS and other key agencies
- Creates long-term approach and commitment to funding capital improvements

Expands MetroSafe to improve emergency communications and response

- Invests \$12.4 million in MetroSafe Phase III to purchase new communications system and renovate former Federal Reserve Building into headquarters

Modernizes Louisville Fire Department to improve response times

- Commits \$17.5 million to build three firehouses, buy 17 fire trucks over four years
- Includes \$3 million to buy land for new firehouses and purchase fire trucks

Expands Animal Services to protect people and pets

- Provides \$750,000 to buy land, begin construction of new animal shelter
- Includes \$110,000 to modernize phone system and add animal transport vehicles to improve customer service and efficiency

Invests in police department to keep citizens safe

- Provides \$129.7 million for police, the largest share of revenue of all departments
- Allocates funds to hire and train about 50 new police officers
- Expands firearms training center and accelerates safety vest replacement
- Invests in surveillance camera pilot program to deter crime in key neighborhoods

Continues building more responsive Emergency Medical Service

- Provides \$468,000 for state-of-the-art hand-held computers to collect medical data, track response

Builds on the 'City of Parks' vision with investments at scores of parks

- Provides \$5 million for field improvements, playground equipment, maintenance
- Includes \$500,000 for design and improvements along River Road recreation corridor and \$650,000 for playground and pavilion improvements at Iroquois Park
- Creates more "bike friendly" corridors with \$546,000 investment

Begins vision of 'Waterfront Park Southwest' at Riverview Park

- Provides \$250,000 to develop master plan for expanded park with waterplay area, an entertainment pavilion, sports fields, a dog run and more
- Transfers management to Waterfront Development Corp. to leverage funding from other government and private sources

Other budget highlights

Economic Development and Jobs

- \$7.4 million in job attraction, retention and expansion, including \$1.2 million for economic development partnership with Greater Louisville Inc.
- \$117,000 for the Mayor's High Impact program to expand the community's fastest-growing local businesses
- \$400,000 for MetaCyte, a business "incubator" that helps start-up life sciences and technology companies

Roads, Streets and Bridges

- \$12 million in roads, streets, bridges, sidewalks and other transportation improvements across community

Downtown

- \$2 million for streetscape and infrastructure improvements
- \$1.5 million for Waterfront Park to help build Big Four Bridge walkway
- \$500,000 for Belle of Louisville safety, comfort improvements

Housing

- \$7.2 million to help people repair, build and purchase affordable homes
- \$2.4 million to continue Liberty Green, a mixed-income neighborhood under construction on the site of the former Clarksdale public housing complex

Library

- \$2.2 million investment in land for three new regional libraries in suburban areas
- \$3.5 million in annual funding for books, materials
- \$600,000 for renovation of Children's Area at Main Library
- \$75,000 for Reading Power program, part of Every1Reads initiative

Youth

- \$250,000 to continue the Youth Opportunity Unlimited (YOU) program that connects young people with educational and job resources
- \$290,000 for Louisville Education and Employment Partnership (LEEP), which provides guidance for at-risk high school students
- \$159,000 to expand after-school programs at public schools, adding two new community school locations

Corrections and Youth Detention

- \$1.4 million to renovate inmate housing to improve safety and security
- \$333,000 to modernize Youth Detention Center

Zoo

- \$855,000 for Glacier Run and other capital improvements at Louisville Zoo